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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/530,266	04/05/2005	Andrei Radulescu	NL 030792	3640

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EXAMINER

PHAN, RAYMOND NGAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2111

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/530,266	Applicant(s) RADULESCU ET AL.	
	Examiner Raymond Phan	Art Unit 2111	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: amendment filed on October 10, 2006.
2. This application has been examined. Claims 1-9 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants Admitted Prior Arts (hereinafter AAPA) in view of Lin et al. (US No 4,807,118) and further in view of Xu et al. (US No. 6,885,638).

In regard to claims 1, 9, AAPA disclose the network on chip (i.e. NoC) comprising numbers of processing modules communicating within the chip (see para 4-7). But AAPA do not specifically disclose wherein said connection supports transactions comprising outgoing messages from the first module to the second modules and return messages from the second modules to the first module. However Lin et al. disclose the system comprising a plurality of processing modules 10, 20 and a network arranged for providing at least one connection between a first 10 and at least one second 20 module, wherein said connection supports transactions comprising outgoing messages from the first module to the second modules and return messages from the second modules to the first module (see figure 3, col. 6, lines 49-67) to provide cost effectiveness and simpler system architecture. But AAPA or Lin et al. do not specifically disclose the system

comprising at least one dropping means for dropping data exchanged by said first and second module. However Xu et al. disclose the system comprising at least one dropping means for dropping data exchanged by said first and second module (see col. 4, lines 9-37). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Xu et al. within the systems of AAPA and Lin et al. because it would reduce congestion in the backhaul links.

In regard to claim 2, Lin et al. disclose further comprising: at least one interface means for managing the interface between a module and the network therein said interface means (see figure 3, col. 6, lines 49-67). But Lin et al. do not specifically disclose a first dropping means for dropping data. However Xu et al. disclose the system comprising at least one dropping means for dropping data exchanged by said first and second module (see col. 4, lines 9-37). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Xu et al. within the systems of Lin et al. and AAPA because it would reduce congestion in the backhaul links.

In regard to claim 3, Xu et al. disclose wherein said network comprises a plurality of network routers for forwarding data without dropping data (see col. 4, lines 2-36). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Xu et al. within the system of Lin et al. and AAPA because it would reduce congestion in the backhaul links.

In regard to claim 4, Xu et al. disclose wherein said dropping means (DM) are adapted to create an error message if data is dropped (see col. 8, lines 28-59). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at

the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Xu et al. within the system of Lin et al. and AAPA because it would reduce congestion in the backhaul links.

In regard to claims 5-6, Xu et al. disclose wherein said dropping means are adapted to send said error message to a first dropping means 18-37). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Xu et al. within the system of Lin et al. and AAPA because it would reduce congestion in the backhaul links.

In regard to claim 7, Xu et al. disclose wherein said interface means is adapted to store received error messages (see col. 9, lines 8-27). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Xu et al. within the systems of Lin et al. and AAPA because it would reduce congestion in the backhaul links.

In regard to claim 8, Xu et al. disclose wherein an interface means associated to the first module is adapted not to drop error messages (see col. 8, lines 17-26). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Xu et al. within the systems of Lin et al. and AAPA because it would reduce congestion in the backhaul links.

Response to Amendment

5. Applicant's amendment and arguments, see on pages 3-8, filed on October 10, 2006, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-9 under 35USC103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of AAPA.

Conclusion

6. All claims are rejected.
7. The prior arts made of record and not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Gemelli et al. (US Pub No. 2003/0101307) disclose a system of distributed microprocessor interfaces towards macro-cell based designs implemented as ASIC or FPGA bread boarding and relative common bus protocol.

Haehn (US No. 6,825,688) discloses a system for yield enhancement in programmable logic.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Raymond Phan, whose telephone number is (571) 272-3630. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30AM- 4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (571) 272-3632 or via e-mail addressed to mark.rinehart@uspto.gov. The fax phone number for this Group is (571) 273-8300.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [raymond.phan@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 central telephone number is (571) 272-2100.



Raymond Phan
December 18, 2006